

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE District of Vermont



February 22, 2007

BURLINGTON MAN SENTENCED FOR FIREARMS CHARGE

The Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Vermont stated today that a Burlington resident, Zachary D. Senna, 22, was sentenced today in the United States District Court to 22 months in prison following his plea of guilty to a charge of possession of a stolen firearm.

According to court documents, in 2003 the South Burlington Police responded to a report of an unconscious female at a Williston Road hotel. On arrival, the police discovered a young woman in a state of a heroin overdose. Emergency responders provided resuscitation but the young woman later passed-away from the heroin overdose. Earlier in the day, the woman had been a passenger in a motor vehicle driven by Steven Manning, age 27, and Manning's identification was found in the hotel room. A search warrant was obtained for Manning's motor vehicle, to search for evidence related to the heroin overdose death. A Smith and Wesson pistol was discovered in Manning's vehicle. The pistol had been reported stolen from a Burlington apartment earlier in the spring of 2003. It was also ascertained that Manning was prohibited from possessing firearms by virtue of a prior felony conviction. A joint investigation by the Burlington resident agency of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the South Burlington Police Department and the Burlington Police Department resulted in an indictment of Steven Manning for possession of the firearm as a previously convicted felon. Manning later pled guilty to the charge and was sentenced to a 60 month term of imprisonment earlier this month. Investigators also ascertained that the Smith and Wesson pistol had been stolen from a Maple Street apartment by Zachary Senna who had traded it to another individual before it reached the hands of Steven Manning. Senna was charged by the federal grand jury on May 25, 2006 with the offense of possession of a stolen firearm, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe the firearm had been stolen. Senna later pled guilty to the stolen gun charge. No charges have been filed in connection with the heroin overdose death, which remains under investigation.

Today in the United States District Court, Chief United States Judge William K. Sessions III sentenced Senna to 22 months in prison, which will be followed by a three year term of supervised release. Senna was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal to commence serving his sentence.

United States Attorney Thomas D. Anderson commended the effort of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the South Burlington Police Department and the Burlington Police Department in this joint investigation. Senna was represented in

court today by Federal Public Defender Michael Desautels. Assistant United States Attorney John M. Conroy was the prosecutor in the case.

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